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Governor

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New Jersey Office of the Attorney General

Division of Consumer Affairs
State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners
Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee
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ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELOR COMMITTEE **PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES** **MAY 29, 2015**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee was called to order by Committee Chair Edward Reading at 9:33 a.m. in the Somerset Conference Room, 6th floor, 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey.

II. ROLL CALL

Present:

Edward Reading, Ph.D., LCADC, Committee Chair
Sylvia Lippe, LCADC, Committee Vice Chair
Norwood Allen, CADC, Committee Member
Jamie Lugo, CADC, Committee Member

Also Present:

Nancy Miller - Deputy Attorney General
Milagros Collazo - Executive Director
Celeste Paige - Administrative Staff
ToniAnn Petrella-Diaz - Government Rep

In accordance with Chapter 231 of P.L. 1975, more commonly referred to as the Sunshine Law, adequate notice of this meeting was provided by mail to the Office of the Secretary of the State of New Jersey, The Newark Star Ledger, The Trenton Times, The Record and the Courier Post and also posted on the Committee's web page.

Announcement of Quorum

Committee Chair Ed Reading announced the presence of a quorum at 9:33 a.m.

III. APPROVAL OF PUBLIC MINUTES

A. April 24, 2015 Public Minutes

Upon motion made by Jamie Lugo, and seconded by Norwood Allen, the Committee voted to approve the April 24, 2015 minutes as amended. Voting in favor: all.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public were present.

V. LEGISLATIVE REGULATORY

A. Assembly Bill 4353

The Committee reviewed the bill for the “Music Therapy Licensing Act.” The Committee does not support the bill for music therapy as it is not an independent discipline, but an adjunctive therapy. Anyone practicing should be licensed as another mental health discipline first. Baseline education and experience requirement for the credential are limited by not documenting mental health training

B. Senate Bill 3435

The Committee reviewed the bill for the “Boys and Girls Clubs Keystone Law” that permits minors to give consent for behavioral health care. The Committee supports this Bill by adding a list of treatment providers and awareness that it may conflict with current school law. Add CADC/ LCADC professionals to the list of persons who can give treatment and support (title 45 page 3 line 12 and 15; page 4 section B lines 15 through 17) and eliminate Certified Social Workers (CSW). Suggest pamphlets that provide care be distributed as public information.

C. Assembly Bill 1436/ Senate Bill 2372

The Committee reviewed the bill that seeks to authorize the Attorney General to coordinate Statewide law enforcement efforts against opiate drug abuse.

The Committee noted that it would be beneficial to have people who are trained added to the task force, and would encourage the AG to include health care professionals who treat LCADC’s to provide treatment perspective.

D. CADC/LCADC Regulations

The Committee reviewed the letter submitted by Steve Liga, Executive Director of the National Council on Alcohol and Drug Dependency regarding the current regulations.

The Committee accepted this as informational.

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

- Executive Director Collazo presented the Licensing Activity Report for Committee review. There are currently 2,535 active licenses for Alcohol and Drug Counselors (CADC/ LCADC), 1,099 applications pending and 16 reinstatements.

*Pending applications include:

Applications pending final Committee review/ approval, incomplete applications, applications waiting on exam results, and applications that have been abandoned.

- Executive Director Collazo reported to the Committee that, at the retirement of Kim Ringler, Howard Pine has been named Acting Deputy Director.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

No items to report.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

No items to report.

X. CORRESPONDENCE

The Committee reviewed the article “New Jersey Bill Cuts Parents Out of Mental Health Treatment Decisions.”

The Committee accepted this as informational.

XI. FILED ORDERS

None to review.

XII. Addiction Professionals Certification Board of New Jersey MATTERS (APCBNJ)

No items to report.

XIII. Division of Mental Health and Addiction Service Matters (DMHAS)

No items to report.

XIV. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for **June 26, 2015** 9:30 a.m. at 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey.

Meeting Dates for 2015

June 26, 2015

July 24, 2015

August - no meeting

September 25, 2015

October 23, 2015

November 20, 2015

December 18, 2015

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion made by Norwood Allen, and seconded by Jamie Lugo, the Committee voted to enter Executive Session at 10:24 a.m. to review applications, plans of supervision, consumer complaints, and other pending disciplinary and confidential matters. Voting in favor: all.

XVI . ADJOURNMENT:

Upon motion by Norwood Allen, seconded by Jamie Lugo, the Committee voted to adjourn the May 29, 2015 public session at 2:07p.m. Voting in favor: all.